

COWES PORT HEALTH AUTHORITYREPORT OF THE PORT HEALTH MEDICAL OFFICER FOR 1944.I Amount of shipping entering the Port during the year:

Foreign 39.

British 113, and numerous small coastwise craft.

All this shipping was engaged in coastwise trade.

Number inspected by the Medical Officer - none.

Number inspected by the Sanitary Inspector 39 foreign
113 British.

Number reported defected - one; but this was found outside this area and was referred to Southampton.

Number reporting infectious disease during the voyage - none.

II Character of Trade of Port. Omitted during present state of war.III Water Supply

Source of supply: as for town of Cowes.

There is a pipe line at the Pier Head. Sources of private supply are at the Pontoon (Isle of Wight Steam Packet Co.), Messrs Marvin's Shipyard and the Gasworks.

IV. Port Health Regulations 1933

- (1) Declaration of Health. This is received by Custom Officers and sent to the Port Medical Officer.
- (2) Boarding of Vessels. The Medical Officer works in close co-operation with the Customs Officers who will take him off to any infected ship. The Ministry of Health's weekly circular relating to infected Ports and infection abroad is filed in readiness for Custom's Officers' inspection, if they wish to consult it.
- (3) Mooring stations for the detention of ships.
 - (a) The Roadstead of Cowes within the local area of jurisdiction.
 - (b) Medham Buoys in the River Medina.
to
- (4) Infectious cases can be landed and isolated in an Isolation Hospital in the Island by arrangement with the Isle of Wight Conjoint Hospital Board.



The War still brings ships to temporary anchorage off Cowes, but outside this Port Health Authority's area of jurisdiction. Such ships requiring a doctor have been visited by Naval Medical Officers attached to H.M.S. Vectis since May 1944 and only occasionally by myself. I have been working in close co-operation with the Naval Officers.

(5) Bacteriological and Pathological Examinations are carried out by arrangement with the County Laboratory at Newport, Isle of Wight.

(6) Cases of Venereal Disease are instructed to report to the County Clinic at Newport. If sailing arrangements make this impossible these cases are examined and treated by the Medical Officer at Cowes.

No cases of infectious disease were landed at the Port during 1944.

V. Measures against Rodents

No special measures were taken against Rodents.

One ship complained of a heavy infestation of rats and immediate help was obtained from the official rat catcher through the Medical Officer of Health.

VI. Hygiene and Crews Spaces.

No complaint was received during the year.

VII. Food Inspection.

This is done by the Town Sanitary Inspector.

Shellfish: Copies of the order prohibiting the distribution for sale for human consumption of oysters, mussels and cockles brought from the River Medina unless the same have been relaid in approved waters for three months were circulated this year.

The few oysters still being collected from the depleted maturing beds at Newtown Creek are handled under satisfactory conditions at the Distributor's business premises in Cowes.

(Signed) G.M. Balfour.

M.B. C.H.B.

March 1945.

Port Medical Officer.

